

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image forming system comprising:

a first image forming apparatus and a second image forming apparatus that are connected to each other via a communication line, wherein

the first image forming apparatus includes:

an image reading unit ~~that reads~~ configured to read image data from a document, and

the second image forming apparatus includes:

an image storing unit ~~that stores~~ configured to store the image data read using the image reading unit of the first image forming apparatus; and

a reading controller ~~that controls~~ configured to control the image reading unit of the first image forming apparatus to read the image data, and ~~controls~~ control the image storing unit to store the image data read using the image reading unit of the first image forming apparatus in the image storing unit.

Claim 2 (Original): The image forming system according to claim 1, wherein

the first image forming apparatus further includes an automatic document feeder that feeds a plurality of documents to the image reading unit one by one, and

the reading controller controls an operation of the automatic document feeder.

Claim 3 (Original): The image forming system according to claim 1, wherein

the second image forming apparatus further includes:

a first image forming controller that reads the image data from the image storing unit, transmits the image data to the first image forming apparatus, and

controls the first image forming apparatus to form an image based on the image data;
and

a second image forming controller that reads the image data from the image storing unit, transmits the image data to the second image forming apparatus, and controls the second image forming apparatus to form an image based on the image data.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The image forming system according to claim 3,
wherein

the first image forming apparatus further includes:

a first data expansion unit that expands compressed image data,

the second image forming apparatus further includes:

a data compression unit that compresses image data; and

a second data expansion unit that expand compressed image data,

the reading controller controls the data compression unit to compress the image data acquired from the first image forming apparatus before storing the image data in the image storing unit, and

the first image forming controller and the second image forming controller include a first expansion controller and second expansion controller that controls the first data expansion unit and the second data expansion unit to expand the compressed image data, respectively.

Claim 5 (Original): The image forming system according to claim 4, wherein the first expansion controller controls the first data expansion unit to expand the compressed image

data transferred from the second image forming apparatus to the first image forming apparatus.

Claim 6 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the communication line is based on a communication interface conforming the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers 1394 standard.

Claim 7 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storing unit is a hard disk drive.

Claims 8-37 (Cancelled).